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NO. 6068 P. 1

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DATE: October 5, 2005

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 18 + 5 References

TO: Examiner Zachariah Lucas, Group Art Unit 1648  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: (571) 273-8300

FROM: Cheryl L. Becker  
Patent and Trademark Department  
D-0377, AP6A-1  
Telephone: (847) 935-1729

**MESSAGE:**

Applicants: Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

Title: METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV

ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821US01

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above are the following:

1. Transmittal Letter (1 Page) in duplicate
2. Amendment and Response (5 Pages)
3. National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology Certificate (2 Pages)
4. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (1 Page)
5. Copy of International Preliminary Examination Report issued in connection with corresponding International Application No. PCT/US02/19958 (7 Pages)
6. Form PTO-1449 (1 Page) in duplicate
7. References cited in Form PTO-1449 (5 References)

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NO. 6068 P. 2

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE  
SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV  
ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: Z. Lucas

Group Art Unit: 1648

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 CFR  
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Examiner Zachariah Lucas  
Group Art Unit 1648  
Commissioner of Patents  
Recipient Facsimile No.: (571) 273-8300

*Kimberly A. Iorio 10/5/05*

Kimberly Iorio

Date

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES are the following:

1. Amendment and Response (5 Pages);
2. National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology Certificate (2 Pages)
3. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (1 Page);
4. Copy of International Preliminary Examination Report issued in connection with corresponding International Application No. I.PCT/US02/199958 (7 Pages);
5. Form PTO-1449 (1 Page) in duplicate; and
6. References cited in Form PTO-1449 (5 References).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shah, et al.

*Cheryl L. Becker*  
Cheryl L. Becker  
Registration No. 35,441  
Attorney for Applicants

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Customer No.: 23492  
Telephone: (847) 935-1729  
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

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NO. 6068 P. 3

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE  
SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV  
ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: Z. Lucas

Group Art Unit: 1648

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Group Art Unit 1648  
Commissioner of Patents  
Recipient Facsimile No.: (571) 273-8300

*Kimberly L. Becker*

Kimberly L. Becker

Date

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Respectfully submitted,  
Shah, et al.

*Cheryl L. Becker*  
Cheryl L. Becker  
Registration No. 35,441  
Attorney for Applicants

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Customer No.: 23492  
Telephone: (847) 935-1729  
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE  
SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV  
ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: Z. Lucas

Group Art Unit: 1648

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Group Art Unit 1648  
Commissioner of Patents  
Recipient Facsimile No.: (571) 273-8300

*Kimberly Rio* 10/5/05  
Kimberly Rio Date

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 13, 2004, please amend the above-referenced  
application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begin on page 2  
of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.